(c) to (e) A Trade Agreement between India and Trinidad and Tobago was signed on 24th January, 1997, during the visit of the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago to India. The agreement signed was of a general nature and aims at providing the climate and policy support necessary for promoting trade and economic cooperation between the two countries.

National Judicial Commission

152. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have a proposal to set up a National Judicial Commission;

(b) if so, the main objective of setting up of such Judicial Commission;

(c) whether such Commissions are likely to be set up at the State level also; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D KHALAP) : (a) At present, there is no proposal under consideration of the Government for the setting up of a National Judicial Commission.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Master Plan for Public Sector Undertakings

153. SHRI B.L. SHANKAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sick Public Sector Undertakings in the country as on December 31, 1996 indicating the amount involved in them;

(b) the details of the master plan for reviving Public Sector Undertakings under the department of Heavy Industry; and

(c) by when the master plan is likely to be effective in reviving the Public Sector Undertakings ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) A Statement is enclosed.

(b) and (c) The strategies formulated for the Public Enterprises under the Department of Heavy Industry include.

(i) Permitting BHEL, which has potential to become a global giant, to access the investment fund out of the disinvestment proceeds, to enable it to offer internationally competitive financial and credit packages;

(ii) Formation of Joint Ventures for one or more of their units in order to enhance the competitiveness and viability of the enterprises by infusion of technology, modern management techniques and marketing strength;

(iii) Creation of a revolving fund from out of 10% of the disinvestment proceeds for infusion of funds in accordance with approved rehabilitation schemes to facilitate quick implementation of turn-around plans.

Revival & restructuring of Public Sector Enterprises in the context of what has been indicated above, is a continuous process.

Statement

As per information received from the Board for Industrial & Financial Reconstruction (BIFR), as on 31.12.96, the Board had received 190 references from the Central and State sick Public Sector Undertakings out of which 145 (61 Central and 84 State PSUs) were registered by the Board. The amount involved in these Public Sector Undertakings is as under :

PSUs	Net worth (Rs. in crs.)	Accumulated losses (Rs. in crs.)
Central (61)	(-) 4165.51	(-) 3296.59
State (84)	(-) 1572.00	(-) 12095.45
145	(-) 5737.51	(-) 15392.04

Abid Hussain Committee

154. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI
SHRI AJAY CHAKRABORTY
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN
SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI NAVINCHANDRA MEHTA

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Abid Hussain Committee have submitted its report to the Government;

(b) if so, the main recommendations of the report;

(c) the details of the recommendations which have been accepted by the Government;

(d) the details of the recommendations which have not been accepted alongwith the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to safeguard the interests of Small Scale Industrial units ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main recommendations of the Committee relate to the reservation policy for the small scale industries, raising the investment limit for SSI sector, mechanism for promotion of small scale industries, focus on clusters, restructuring financial support for SSI Sector, integrated support services, support for technology development in small scale enterprises, infrastructure development in clusters and institutional and legal innovation